

the Bullet

Volume 77, No. 16

Serving the Mary Washington College community since 1922

Celebrate Diversity

Valentine's Day



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February 12, 2004



Elizabeth Edwards, the wife of Sen. John Edwards, visited Mary Washington College on Thursday, Feb. 5. See her exclusive interview on page 15.

Laptop Theives On The Loose

Four Laptops Stolen From Willard Lead To Searches, Meetings

By MARY DAVID
Staff Writer

A number of thefts ranging from laptops to Playstations took place in Willard Hall last week, according to campus police, alarming students and leaving many on edge.

According to an email from Mary Washington College Police Chief J.C. Snipes, there were two males and one female loitering near the back entrance of Willard Hall last Tuesday. They were all wearing baseball caps and are considered suspects.

Snipes said the suspect may have been waiting to gain access to the building.

Sophomore Laura Rawlett was among those who reported a theft. Rawlett said she got to her

room less than 10 minutes after her laptop, purse, wallet, credit cards and keys were stolen.

"I am absolutely disgusted that someone would break into my room, a place that I thought was safe," Rawlett said. "It was really hard for me to be in that room knowing that somebody else was there, broke in and took everything."

Rawlett said she did not see the suspects, but other residents noticed them.

"Some people in my building saw them smoking outside the building," she said. "Girls in my hall saw one man standing outside my door with a big duffel bag."

Rawlett said the incident has been hard on her. "I feel very violated," she said. "It's taken me

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UMW Or MWU? The Debate Continues

By JILL FLOWERS
Staff Writer

Administrators recently began to look into the cost of the name change and found that the total cost is expected to end up around \$100,000 according to Richard Hurley, executive vice president and chief financial officer.

Private money, taken from donations from alumni and friends of the college, has been allocated to assist in the effort. Hurley said the administration is in the process of creating a committee, the Name Implementation Committee, which will take charge during the process.

However, as of now the bill making Mary Washington College the University of Mary Washington is still in the process of being approved and has yet to be signed by the governor. According to a recent survey of 640

students conducted by the Student Government Association, 65 percent of students favor Mary Washington University over the 21 percent who support the University of Mary Washington.

Students said they feel like the decision has already been made and few know the bill for the name change has not fully passed through the General Assembly.

"And that damn banner hanging on Lee doesn't help," said Katie Leesman, Legislative Action Committee chair.

The University Status Campaign Committee hung a sign on Lee Hall hailing the University of Mary Washington as "Virginia's Next Great University."

"We need activism on the issue," Leesman said.

The bill for the name change had to go

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Primaries 2004

MWC Students React To Democratic Candidates

By BETSY CRUMB
News Editor

President Bush is looking for reelection, but the Democrats are here to give him a run for his money.

In Tuesday's primaries, John Kerry won Virginia by 52 percent to win his eleventh state primary and John Edwards placed a distant second with 27 percent, according to CNN. Wesley Clark came in third, but, also according to CNN, announced his withdrawal from the race.

Kerry's win in all the previous primaries set the stage for his win in Virginia.

With 48 percent popularity to George W. Bush's 52 percent shown in a CNN popularity poll, Kerry looks as though he could dominate and win the Democratic ticket to give Bush some competition.

Despite strong feelings in the nation overall, students on campus seem to be divided amongst the Democratic candidates.

Howard Dean, who was leading the race until just last month, is supported by a small amount of students at Mary Washington College.

Freshman Emma Interlandi, an avid Dean supporter, was integral in starting a students for Dean campaign on campus along with freshman Vanessa Macoy. They held only one meeting, which drew about 10 people, but said they stay strong with their Dean table outside the Eagles Nest.

"I think Dean is the most passionate of all the candidates," Macoy said. "What drew me to him most was that he is so vocally anti-war. He's almost the anti-Bush and that's important to me."

Interlandi, a Vermont local who played soccer with Dean's daughter, helped out with the Dean campaign over winter break.

She said every weekend a busload of Vermonters was invited to New Hampshire to help out with the campaign.

"When you support a candidate, you really want to do as much as possible to help out the cause," Interlandi said. "The media has really distorted who Dean is. They portray him as an angry liberal. In Vermont he was always seen as a moderate. The media keeps that picture fresh in our minds. It's annoying when you really know who he really is."

According to Interlandi, anyone helping out with the Dean campaign helped mainly on Saturday afternoons canvassing different areas.

The campaigners would go door-to-door to registered Democrats or undecided voters, to update the voting list and answer any questions concerning Dean's stance on issues.

"What's so great about the Dean campaign is that every person we talk to, we then send out a hand-written post card thanking them for their time," Interlandi said. "It's so personal. It's really about every voter."

Macoy agreed.

"The great thing about Dean is his campaign is really on the grassroots level; it's all about personalized volunteering," she said.

Dean is not the only candidate with supporters on campus.

Dan Buckley, a junior, is a strong advocate of Kerry and worked to gain support for Kerry at Mary Washington College.

"I support Kerry because he has always fought for the American people," Buckley said. Buckley also said Kerry, who is a decorated Vietnam war hero, served in the senate for 20 years and worked hard to protect Democratic ideals.

"Most importantly, he has the character, charisma and momentum to beat Bush," Buckley said.

Buckley instituted a group on campus called "MWC Students for Kerry," which was advertised through fliers on campus. He said the group coordinated efforts with the national Kerry

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Candidate Surrogates Visit Mary Washington

By PETER KELLEY
Photo Editor

Last Wednesday evening, the Mary Washington College Democrats, in conjunction with the Fredericksburg Democratic committee, hosted a presidential candidate forum in the Great Hall, open to the general public.

Represented were surrogates from the top four Democratic campaigns: Wesley Clark, Howard Dean, John Edwards and John Kerry in the hopes of garnering last minute support before Virginia's primary held on Tuesday.

"The purpose of the forum tonight was to give us a new idea of what the candidates were like," said junior Dana Ferreira, president of the Mary Washington College Democrats.

All four representatives touched on many issues, but focused on educational issues such as the No Child Left Behind Act and ways to address the increasing costs of college tuition.

Amy Collins, the regional volunteer director for Clark's campaign in Virginia said she blamed the media's spin for Clark's poor standings in the polls. She also said Clark's support isn't as well publicized as it should be.

Secretary of the Mary Washington College Democrats junior Lindsay Briggs was supportive of Clark's plan.

"I find Clark's proposal to be very all-encompassing in the American electorate," Briggs said.

Collins said Clark's all-inclusive education plan will pay for the first two years of college.

Dean's campaign, which began by getting a lot of steady publicity, saw its coverage slip after Dean's third place finish in the Iowa Caucuses.

"For Kerry and Edwards who voted for a war, I can put up with a scream," said Alisha Knight, Dean's surrogate, alluding to Dean's now infamous "I have a scream" speech.

Knight said one candidate who benefited from Dean's screaming halt was Edwards.

Edwards is defined by his campaign battle cry in which we are living in two Americas, one of the privileged and one of the underprivileged.

"When Edwards talks about two Americas, it hits home," said Dee Zisman, chairwoman of the Fredericksburg Democratic Committee.

The No Child Left Behind Act which President George W. Bush signed into law originally promised the states \$6 billion dollars, but instead reduced those appropriations to \$1 billion dollars.

Many of the bill's opponents, including Sen. Ted Kennedy (D), Mass., called the bill one of the worst unfunded mandates ever.

Knight agreed.

"Most of the \$1 billion dollars goes towards testing and not towards teaching," she said.

Gary Pash, a representative of Kerry's campaign, gave an overview of Kerry's position on education.

"[Kerry] feels that decisions about education should be made up to the states or on the local level," he said. "[He also] feels that everyone has a chance for education. Mr. Kerry has proposed that if one serves his/her country for two years they will be entitled for four years of college so that college graduates aren't in debt."

Last Wednesday's forum was the first event co-ordinated by the Mary Washington College Democrats and the Fredericksburg Democratic Committee.

Zisman said she would love to do something again in the fall. By that time, the Democrats will have their candidate ready to go up against Bush.

After notching two more wins in his victory column this past Tuesday, in both Tennessee and Virginia, it is becoming more evident the democratic candidate to go up against Bush could very well be Kerry.

Ferreira concluded the evening when he said students need "to get out and get involved. We have a voice and let's use it. We need to take back the country."

5 Day Forecast



TODAY
Snow Showers
High: 37
Low: 28



FRIDAY
Mostly Sunny
High: 50
Low: 24



SATURDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 50
Low: 20



SUNDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 39
Low: 12



MONDAY
Partly Cloudy
High: 35
Low: 20

Verbatim ...

"Now society wastes their time watching cartoon sponges jump and sing."

- Junior Christine Olsen,
page 10



Police Beat

By STEPHANIE TAIT
Staff Writer



Feb. 3—At 10:59 a.m. it was reported to campus police that a 27-year-old female member of the Residence Life Staff slipped and fell on campus walk, injuring her head. She was transported by ambulance to Mary Washington Hospital.

Feb. 3—At 8:51 p.m. it was reported to campus police that a vending machine in DuPont Hall was vandalized. A snack machine was found open. Money and food valued at \$300 was stolen. The scene was processed for fingerprints but no usable prints were recovered. The case is under investigation.

Feb. 4—At 12:15 p.m. it was reported to campus police that an auto accident in the Goolrick parking lot. Lauren Benzing of Fredericksburg backed her Civic Honda into a parked Pontiac. Damages were estimated at \$3,500. The case is under investigation.

Feb. 6—At 3:15 p.m. it was reported to campus police that a 23-year-old female overdosed on prescription medication. The female was visiting a 22-year-old male resident of South Hall and the two were reportedly having relationship trouble. The female took a large dose of prescription medication and then disappeared. The male student called the Fredericksburg Rescue Squad. Police arrived on the scene and found the female lying outside South Hall. She was referred to the administration.

transported to Mary Washington Hospital.

Feb. 7—At 1:45 a.m. police were called to Mason Hall for an alcohol incident. Upon arriving, they found an 18-year-old female resident unresponsive after having consumed large amounts of alcohol, campus police said. Fredericksburg Rescue Squad transported the female to Mary Washington Hospital. The student was referred to the administration.

Feb. 8—At 12:57 a.m. campus police observed a student stumbling in the middle of Sunken Road. When an officer approached the student to assess the situation, the student smelled strongly of alcohol and slurred his speech. The 18-year-old resident of Russell Hall claimed he was a pledge to a fraternity and was forced to consume the alcohol, campus police said. He was arrested for being drunk in public and taken to the Rappahannock Regional Jail. The student was referred to the administration.

Feb. 8—At 10:34 p.m. campus police discovered a verbal dispute between two 19-year-old roommates in Marshall Hall. Police arrived and found two females engaged in a high-pitched, verbally-abusive discussion. There was no suspicion of drug or alcohol involvement and no signs of assault, campus police said. After the two females calmed down, Residence Life took care of the situation.

Missing Computers Anger Students

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a while to get back into the swing of things."

Rawlett said she moved out of Willard Hall and had to replace what she could.

"All of my work, all of it was lost," she said. "I had to cancel my credit cards and get new ones. I had to go to the DMV to get my license reinstated which took me like two and a half hours. I am locking all my stuff all the time. I had to buy a new computer. It's a desktop."

Rawlett urges students to lock their doors.

"My roommate left the door unlocked," she said. "Keep your door locked and make sure your roommate does the same just because you never know. I would lock my door when I would take a shower, 'cause it only takes a minute."

Senior Britton Elmore, another victim, said this is the first time he has experienced something like this during his college career.

"I lock my door pretty much religiously now," he said. "I'd never locked it for four years. I guess I should have been locking my door the whole time."

Elmore said his roommate was the first to realize Elmore's Playstation 2, DVD player and one of his video games were stolen.

"I didn't notice 'til last Sunday when I got home from work," he said.

Although Elmore was aggravated about what happened, he was grateful overall that nothing more valuable was taken.

"Locking my door is a hassle," Elmore said. "[But] the thing is I had cash, my computer and my cell phone in plain sight and those weren't stolen. I was frustrated and angry at first, but they took stuff that was inexpensive and easy to replace."

Elmore also said, "They were nice about it. They made sure they took the DVD remote, [instead of the television remote control] which I appreciated."

Students in Willard Hall and across campus

are disturbed about the incidents. Willard Hall resident assistant Crissy Farney said the atmosphere at the college has changed.

"At a staff meeting, we talked about how, because of the honor code at this school, we have all felt comfortable leaving valuable belongings unattended in public places," Farney said. "But now our private rooms don't feel as safe. I think a lot of people, not just in Willard, are starting to be more aware of the things they leave around."

Freshman Laura Biondi said she is also troubled by the incident's broader ramifications. "It makes me feel like no one's respecting the Honor Code," she said.

Farney advised residents talk to their roommates and be aware of where they place their belongings.

Willard Hall's head desk aid Kendall Marion said part of the problem is no supervision of the back door.

"As long as you show up with somebody who has a key at the same time, they will let you in," she said. "More often than not, people don't sign in. With the back door, it's really hard to monitor signing in and out."

Manion said residents should not get too worked up about what has happened.

"I think this is a rare occasion of someone taking advantage of the back door," she said.

The best thing residents can do, according to Marion, is make sure guests are all signed in.

"Just do it," Marion said. "It doesn't take that much time. I know people think that's stupid, but it's 10 seconds if you cooperate."

Manion said while these circumstances are ill-fated, there isn't much that can be done.

"There's really nothing the school can do about it," she said. "They're trying to provide a convenience with a door at either side of the building, and it's disappointing someone took advantage of it. Hopefully, campus police will find the culprit soon enough."

Campus police encourage individuals who have any information on the suspects to contact the college police department.



Corey Byers/Bullet

A laptop.

Kerry Wins; Opinions Divided

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campaign as well as with local Democrats.

"I think John Kerry's overwhelming success in the primaries is wonderful for the Democratic Party," Buckley said. "It shows that Kerry appeals to voters all throughout the nation. Democrats all over the nation are uniting behind the only man that can defeat Bush."

Some Mary Washington College students are putting their time in for Edwards.

Freshman Elspeth England is a strong advocate of Edwards.

"The main reason I support Edwards is the issue of electability," England said. "Anyone is better than Bush."

England said she thinks Edwards is a good choice for the Democratic ticket because he will be able to get voters from the South and the Midwest. He easily represents the middle class and will be able to relate to them, she said.

England voted on Tuesday through an absentee ballot from her home in Richmond.

"I've been a little disappointed with [Tuesday's] primaries," she said. "Hopefully some other states will pull through for Edwards."

Brown England said beyond Edwards she thinks Kerry does have the stamina to beat Bush.

The Mary Washington College Young Democrats have not backed a candidate, according to Dana Ferreira, president of the College Democrats.

"The members of the Young Democrats represent all parts of the country, all different ideologies and come from many different backgrounds, so we run the risk of alienating members by choosing a candidate before the Democratic Party actually picks their

presidential choice," Ferreira said. "However, we have encouraged members to voice their own opinions individually and discuss the candidates they support."

Ferreira said once the Democratic Party chooses its presidential frontrunner, the College Democrats will be very busy doing all they can to back the candidate.

"We will fight tooth and nail for our candidate," he said.

Ferreira's personal opinion is still up in the air.

"I personally have not found [a candidate] yet," he said.

"John Kerry and John Edwards are both fantastic candidates and I would take either one of them over Bush. Actually, I'd take anyone over Bush. I'd love to see Al Sharpton as president if it means Bush was out of office."

Not everyone on campus leans to the left.

Sophomore Kelly Ryan, while shocked by the numbers in the Democratic primaries, still feels Bush is the best candidate.

"I'm baffled by the outcomes," Ryan said. "First it was Dean, then Kerry and now Edwards is gaining momentum. But personally I don't like any of them so I already know I'm going to vote for Bush."

Sophomore Kevin Stallings also plans to vote for Bush in the upcoming election.

"The Democratic candidates that are still in the race haven't given good enough reasons for being against Bush on the war," Stallings said. "I think they need to describe a definite plan on what they want to do about the situation in Iraq now."

As proven in the last presidential election, every vote counts and Macoy and Interlandi both hope to see people out voicing their opinions.

"It's just important to vote," Macoy said. "Even if it's for Bush."

SGA Urges Action In Name Decision

◀ NAME, page 1

through the crossover period where the House and Senate approve their bills and the Governor still needs to sign off on it.

"It's simply a matter of what the Governor hears from the students and what senators hear from their constituents," said Kristin Orstead, SGA president.

To that end, the Legislative Action Committee and the SGA are encouraging students to write letters to their representatives and voice their opinion on the matter.

"It's very frustrating to see that what students feel and what they want isn't considered," said senior Sarah Gordon.

Many students said they feel it's too late.

"I feel like the decision was made after the Save the Name rally was over and the BOV decided," said senior Lexi Pappas. "I would rather have MWU, but it seems like most people are content just to keep Mary Washington in the name."

To freshman Peter Larson, it seems like everyone got what they wanted, since the BOV wanted "University" and the students wanted to retain "Mary Washington."

"It's pretty much set and I don't think the legislators have any reason to change it," Larson said.

Some students said the decision doesn't matter.

"Really they could call us the University of Flying Pigs for all I care," said senior Jason Lancaster. "Being from Texas there is really no name recognition for Virginia schools and everyone thinks I go to William and Mary anyway."

According to the SGA, they will continue to promote the wishes of the student body.

In a Feb. 4 press release, they explained their "plans to petition legislators with the request that they amend both bills to reflect the desires of the student body."

Leesman planned a lobbying trip to Richmond on Monday Feb. 9 to do just that.

Six people from Mary Washington College targeted local legislators and Leesman said they met with 25 to 30 legislators or their aides.

They had packets of information, including

the SGA survey and two other opinion surveys from alumnus and faculty on the name change.

To Leesman, the trip was a huge step forward. "Basically, their reactions were one, they were really receptive, and two, they wondered why we weren't there earlier," Leesman said. "It seemed like a lot of them really wished that they had known before. So, what we are hoping for now is an amendment in crossover. We still have a lot of chances to get the name changed," she said.

The group also met with William Leighy, the Governor's chief of staff, and left the SGA surveys with him for Warner to see.

"I recently had the chance to meet with Governor Warner and when I told him about the poll he seemed genuinely concerned and said that he would look into it," Leesman said. "He can be persuaded if we get student voice."

Gov. Mark Warner was unavailable for comment.

However, a spokesman for the Governor, Kevin Hall, said, "Since the name change was recommended by the Board of Visitors of the college the Governor will defer to the members of the BOV on that issue and support the name change."

College administrators said they are optimistic, but will remain patient until the bill passes fully.

"We wouldn't anticipate any problem at this point since they've passed it with such overwhelming majority," said Margaret Mock, director of news and information services.

According to Hurley, who said he didn't foresee any problems with the crossover or signing of the bill, administrators are now moving into the discussion phase of the name change implementation, deciding what needs to be changed, how and when.

According to Teresa Mannix, assistant director of news and information services, the college is working on new admission materials so if the name change goes through the materials can be ordered and ready for new students in the fall.

However, until the Governor's signature is on the bill nothing is set in stone.

Orstead and Leesman are encouraging students to keep that in mind and take an active role in the issue, letting their representatives know how they feel.

SGA Nominations Are Out

SGA President:
Dan Bouchard
Davis Renolds
Frank Puleo

SGA VP:
Meghan Cudahy
Paul Kozar

Honor Council President:
Jeremy Potter
Andrea McDaniel
Chris Clapp

JRB President:
Sebastian Sorgue
Cherele Read

JRB VP:
Kate Hallberg
Peter Larson
Tripp White

LAC Chair:
Morgan Applegate
Jarred Turner

Academic Affairs Council
Chair:
Lynn Alani
Brad Alder

Association of Residence Halls President:
Ianne Leal

Commuting Students
Assoc. President:
Mary Bowen

Interclub Assoc.
President:
Jeff Holmes

Student Media Council
Chair:
no nominees

* SGA Voter Information night will be held Wednesday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Lee Hall Ballroom.

Viewpoints

Staff Editorial SHOW LOVE

It's Black History Month.

February, the month that we celebrate the lives and achievements of great African-Americans.

Remember in elementary and middle school, when teachers assigned book reports on famous African-Americans and everybody always picked Martin Luther King, Jr. or Rosa Parks? Those were the days when students were actually required to recognize the month.

Now that college life is here, classes stick straight to the curriculum and it's all biology, sociology or historic preservation.

No lesson on Charles Drew, who was a pioneer in the field of medicine.

No review of W.E.B. Dubois, who was an influential sociologist, author and civil rights leader.

No knowledge of Benjamin Banneker, the architect who planned the city of Washington D.C.

But Mary Washington College does provide the campus and community with a variety of events that celebrate African-American culture. Events planned by the Multicultural Center and student groups that work hard to attract the majority of the campus, which is not African-American.

So, whether you are black, white, yellow, purple or blue, go support these events. Show some love. After all, it is almost Valentine's day.



Inconsistencies In The Bullet

Commentary On Last Week's Staff Editorial

Dear Editor:

"Whatever the reason, America has decided to finally recognize the absurd amount of sexuality plaguing our press every day, and we are glad."

This was the ending quote to what I thought was a wonderful editorial. I was glad to finally see a shift from the endless supply of editorial letters about the name change.

However, I was slightly amused, but more shocked to turn the page of our fine *Bullet* to find a large picture of a nine-foot penis. What disappointed me even more was turning the page again, only to find a picture of Janet Jackson with a close up of her exposed breast.

I understand that editors are usually the viewpoint of one person. However, the editorial column that I read from last week's edition of *The Bullet* claimed, "we are glad," NOT "I am glad." Thus, I took this to mean that the staff of the paper was glad that "America has decided..." (well, read the quote at the beginning of this letter or you could find it on page 3 of the Feb. 5 *Bullet*).

Believe it or not, *Bullet*, you are the press.

I know that we have a paper that is well known for excellence and I usually enjoy reading *The Bullet*. This issue of *The Bullet*, however, has left me confused. Why do you say on one page that you are glad that America is finally recognizing the absurdity of the amount of sexuality in the media only to put a close up of a breast and a picture of a large penis on the following pages?

It just doesn't make sense to me. Please *Bullet*, if you are going to collectively make a statement via the editorial section, please make sure you are consistent with those views throughout the paper.

Jacklyn Kettnerman is an education graduate student.

**I was slightly
amused, but more
shocked, to turn the
page of our fine
Bullet to find a
large picture of a
nine-foot penis.**

The Bullet Is No Place For Porn

Dear Editor:

For the first time in four years at Mary Washington College, I have decided to write because of the crass obscenity published and your own inconsistency in last week's issue (*The Bullet* Vol. 77 No. 15).

I must say I was very pleased with your editorial. It was thoughtful and insightful for a college student. In fact, I agree with your final statement, "Whatever the reason, America has decided to finally recognize the absurd amount of sexuality plaguing our press every day, and we are glad."

Perhaps you know already why I am writing.

Just a page later, you published a feature article on nothing else but the male genitalia. And not only is there an article, tasteless in nature, but three pictures, one of which is very large. Indeed, I turned bright red as I turned to that page while sitting in National Airport.

Hoping that no one had seen that picture, I turned the page again. In the Sports section there was the picture that everyone had already seen plenty of times that week—Janet Jackson obscenely exposed. Once again, not only was there one picture, but in fact you also chose to print a *close up* of her breast. Moreover, every other major media source I saw chose to blur her exposed breast, you however published it clearly.

First off, *The Bullet* is a collegiate newspaper, not a pornography magazine. I do not wish to read about such crude material let alone be subjected to such pictures. I

imagine that many of my peers will agree.

Secondly, I must point out your gross inconsistency. You, the editorial staff, said yourselves that you were glad that America is "recognizing the absurd amount of sexuality" that is in our daily press and yet you chose to publish material that adds to those "absurd amounts."

Most importantly, I expect that you will never again publish such offensive material. I hope also that you would do a better job editing your paper to make sure that the viewpoint you express is consistent with that which you publish in successive pages.

Carolyn Townsend is a senior

Primary Education: "Rife With B.S."

Thoughts On This Year's Presidential Primaries

By MIKE CASEY

Guest Columnist

I am disappointed with politicians in this country. I suppose that politicians throughout history have reached out to voters with their dung-eating grins and *honesty*, but this political season is rife with B.S.

I've been following the Democratic primaries, primarily because that's the only news covered—aside from Ms. Jackson's uncovered nipple—but also because I care about the future of this country.

One of the conclusions I have come to in my study of the Democratic primaries is that the key argument, to quote withdrawn candidate Dick Gephardt, is that "this President is a miserable failure." Thanks, Dick. No hard feelings, but your campaign was a miserable failure.

So we get characters like Kucinich—fresh off

I logged on to democrats.org to see why the Democratic candidates are full of crap.

the set from a role as Gollum in Lord of the Rings 3—and Kerry, and Dean, who dramatically pontificate about how riled our country is, and how we need to change America.

This is my biggest fear. Right now, the country is at a critical juncture, and the populous seems to be very impatient. I am afraid that a new administration would

come into office claiming omniscience, and cause setbacks for all of the advancements we have made, by shifting the conduct of these ongoing operations.

One technique the primary candidates are really skilled at is accusing Bush of lying about Iraqi weapons of mass

destruction. Of course, they don't care to mention that virtually every intelligence agency in the world reached the same conclusions as ours—they just accuse Bush of deceiving the American people.

These accusations are taken out of the context

of the imperfect world in which we live. Remember, good leaders don't sit idly; they make the best decisions possible given imperfect knowledge of the future. Great leaders don't quit when the going gets tough; they stand with resolve, confident that their objectives will be accomplished because they have the courage to see them through.

Seeking answers, I logged on to democrats.org to see why the democratic candidates are full of crap. This is the Web site

for the Democratic National Committee. The headline at the Web site is "Meet the Truth," an unfunny play-on-words of "Meet the Press." A TV show that President Bush was interviewed on Sunday, Feb. 8.

The funny thing is this: the Democrats stretched the truth in their report—you can't write irony this well. The document says: "FACT: David Kay Said No Weapons Existed Before the War." Then, and this is the interesting part, they quote David Kay to dispense their "fact!" Kay says, "I believe that...it is HIGHLY UNLIKELY that there were large stockpiles of deployed militarized chemical and biological weapons there."

Is it just me, or are these guys more full of crap than Fat Bastard's toilet after a Chipotle run?

There is a difference between "highly unlikely" and a definitive "no."

Thinking (for some unexplainable reason) that

See, that's the problem, these yahoos in both parties are out of touch with American voters.

the Republicans would offer better coverage of the campaign trail I checked out rnc.org—Note: I never said I was intelligent. The first thing I noticed was a picture of the chairman of the

National Committee—a side note is necessary: I turned on C-SPAN a week or so ago, and caught the intro to a Republican National Committee meeting, and this clown was speaking.

I quickly reached the conclusion (after many attempts at a good joke) that Republicans are not funny people. There is just something about their stiff delivery, and insane house-of-horrors smiles that make me cringe.

Anyhow, the RNC Web site was no better—in fact, in some ways, it was worse, because I couldn't stomach the format. And that RNC chairman's smile is really scary. And there is this ad with another horrible attempt at creativity with the line, "Keep America Moving in the Right Direction."

See, that's the problem, these yahoos in both parties are out of touch with American voters.

My request—which is the equivalent to the substance coming out of the mouths of these politicians—is that we head to the polls as educated voters. If my request isn't granted, at least I will be able to listen (repeatedly) to my roommate playing various remixes of Dean's meltdown in Iowa. Which isn't too shabby a consolation.

Mike Casey is a senior

the Bullet
www.thebulletonline.com

Serving the Mary Washington College Community since 1922.

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The Bullet is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters will be no longer than 300 words and must be signed.

We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to The Bullet at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacobeck Hall, or sent to our email address at bullet@mwvc.edu.

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact The Bullet at (540) 654-1133.



Features

Your Valentine's Day To Do Guide

By Debbie Kim
Staff Writer

Valentine's Day of freshman year, junior Kathy Yoon entered her room surprised to find evidence of a break-in. This, however, was not a typical run of the mill crime. It was a show of affection on behalf of her boyfriend, who had snuck in while she was out.

"He had cut out red hearts with little messages written in each one and hid them all over my room," Yoon said.

With the impending arrival of St. Valentine's Day this weekend, Mary Washington College students will start to see a lot more red hearts everywhere whether they would like to or not.

Despite mixed feelings, Valentine's Day remains to be one of the most popular holidays among Americans. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Americans purchase \$424 million worth of flowers, with roses contributing \$68 million to overall sales.

The bureau also reports that each American, on average, consumes more than 27 pounds of candy a year, with sales peaking around the day of the holiday, Feb. 14.

Many students in relationships say they would like to plan something special for their significant others on the holiday, but aren't yet sure of what to do.

"My plan is to let my boyfriend do all the planning," sophomore Tori Scott said.

One classic option for couples is a romantic dinner out for two. During their time out together they can exchange gifts or simply enjoy each other's company.

Couples can take advantage of restaurant specials that are only offered during Valentine's Day. Clarendon's, located in downtown Fredericksburg on Lafayette Boulevard, presents each female patron with Godiva chocolates.

La Petit Auberge, on William Street, offers a special Valentine's Day menu. Lobster Bisque and a St. Valentine's salad are a few of the eclectic choices.

Couples can end the night with a variety of other activities. Watching a romantic movie can help maintain

the amorous ambience. "Something's Gotta Give," "Along Came Polly," and "50 First Dates," which opens this weekend, are just a few of the new films out that are appropriate for Valentine's Day.

Ice skating together at the Fredericksburg Ice Park is another cheap and fun alternative for the night out.

Students may also consider Valentine's Day-themed concerts or events. Senior Liz Margeson said, "My boyfriend and I made dinner together and then we went to go see a play at the Kennedy Center."

Those looking for an all-in-one package can check out the Riverside Center Dinner Theater, which provides both the meal and the entertainment.

Another popular way of expressing affection is through a homemade gift. The Web site lovingyou.com offers a wide variety of ideas.

An anonymous contributor to the site explained how one memorable year her boy friend filled her room with balloons, whereupon she popped each one and found a special message written by him inside.

An alternative creative pick by the Web site is the idea of Valentine's Day coupons. Each coupon has a service written on it, such as a free massage or bubble bath, which may be redeemed by the recipient at any time.

While there are students who will be busily preparing

► See V-DAY GUIDE, page 5

Here Comes the Bride...

By Stephanie Twining
Assistant Features Editor

The History of Valentine's Day



Rome, 300 A.D.-- According to one legend, St. Valentine actually sent the first valentine himself. While in prison, he fell in love with a girl who is believed to have been his jailor's daughter. He wrote her a love letter before his death, and signed it 'From your Valentine.' The expression is still in use today. By the middle ages, Valentine, the patron saint of lovers, had become the most popular saint in England and France.

Information courtesy historychannel.com.
Photo courtesy homepage.etr.com.net/~seanjmurphy

Junior Rebecca Riley thought her boyfriend, Mike Legge, was just taking her out for a romantic dinner on the night of June 21. But as they walked down to the end of the pier in Solomon's Island, Md. and sat on a bench by the water, she quickly realized this was no ordinary night.

"I could tell he was nervous because he kept looking around and thinking everyone was watching him," she said. "That's when he got down on one knee and pulled the ring out of his pocket."

Riley said her immediate reaction was to say yes, and then the tears of joy were to follow.

"Me not cry?" she laughed.



Junior Rebecca Riley and fiancé Mike Legge plan to get married in June 2005.

"When he asked, I didn't even think about it though. Then when it sank in a couple minutes later, I just couldn't believe it."

Age is Only a Number

Although Riley and Legge have been dating for four years, they are still engaged at an age that surprises many people.

"People are surprised because we are so young," Riley said.

However while 20-year-old Riley accepted a princess cut diamond ring from her long-time boyfriend, she is not the only Mary Washington College student settling down. In fact, engagement among college-age couples across the country is not so rare.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 17 percent of 20 to 24-year-olds were already married in 2002.

Senior Brandon Cox gets a reaction similar to Riley's when people learn that he is engaged.

"A lot of people are really shocked and think that we're too young," Cox said. "But I just think that they haven't found who they are looking for and I have."

Cox and his fiancée, senior Laura Castello, got engaged last December on their one-year anniversary.

According to Castello, the only age-related factor that concerned her was finishing school in time.

"We were both trying to get into med school, and we weren't sure how that was going to work out," Castello said.

Riley's wedding is set for June 2005 because of a stipulation made by her parents when her boyfriend asked for their permission to marry their daughter.

"My parents only said we both had to finish school before we got married," Riley said. "There's concern about us being that young so that's why we're waiting."

Bridezilla

Castello had originally planned for the wedding to take place this summer, but trying to plan a wedding while finishing school proved to be too stressful. Castello and Cox have set the date of their wedding as June 4, 2005.

"It's a lot to do," Castello said. "But I'm sure any girl will agree that the fun outweighs the hard work."

Over winter break, Castello and Cox did some research in Cox's hometown of Lynchburg, where the wedding is set to take place.

"[Planning a wedding] is pretty hard, especially since it's not going to be where I live," Castello said. "But now that we pushed it back a year, it's a little bit easier. We investigated all the sights and churches over Christmas, which helped a lot too."

Cox said he's trying to be as involved with the planning process as possible without getting in the way.

"This is her thing," he said. "She's been looking forward to this her whole life. I'm just part of the ceremony."

Castello said the only problem the couple has run into while planning their wedding is the guest list.

"My family consists of 15 people while his family consists of 200 people," she said. "One of the major problems is making his list and trying to cut it down, because we can't fit that many people."

Senior Emily Mosley is planning for her wedding, which is set for May 29 of this year, two weeks after she plans to graduate.

"It's awful," she said of planning her at-home wedding. "It's a lot to do with class on top of that."

Mosley also used winter break to work with her mother to get a lot of the planning and organizing finished.

Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend

Picking the engagement ring has traditionally been the responsibility of the man, but many

► See ENGAGEMENTS, page 5

Thumbs Up... Thumbs Down...



To the sand finally being cleared from campus.



To every entrance from the New Hall parking lot being closed.



To McDonald's having new all white-meat chicken nuggets.



To whatever was in them before...

Send your own thumbs to bullet@mwc.edu

Courtesy 1800flowers.com

Relationships That Go The Distance

LONG DISTANCE, page 4

Valentine's Day, couples will try to find creative ways to express their love for one another—from a distance.

While Murphy is at school, Weinburg, who graduated from the college last May, tries to visit her every other weekend. This routine works out well, but Murphy agrees the long breaks are hardest.

"I just spent this past Thanksgiving with him," Murphy said. "And he will come visit me in Hawaii after I graduate in May."

Last Valentine's Day, Murphy made Kevin chocolate-covered strawberries and he bought her a silver heart bracelet that she had seen in the mall.

"He went back to get it for me after I mentioned how much I liked it," Murphy said. "He does a lot of sweet things."

This year, Murphy said they will probably go out to dinner and try to plan something really special.

Like Murphy, junior Kelly Allen also met her boyfriend, junior Adam Panza, at Mary Washington College.

Allen and Panza met freshmen year while the two lived in Russell Hall. They quickly became friends, but Allen didn't think he was her type.

"He was so disorganized," Allen said.

After freshmen year, Allen didn't think they would see each other very much, but sophomore year came and she ended up hanging out in his room in New Hall. Around Christmas time, the two began dating officially.

When she's not at school, Allen resides in Trumbull, Conn., while Panza lives in Saratoga Springs, N.Y. The distance is definitely hard, but they make plenty of visits and phone calls.

But the ultimate test will come when Panza travels to Australia to study abroad this semester.

Allen was originally supposed to go along with him but decided against it. To make up for it, Allen's parents are sending her to Australia for a month in May to visit Panza.

Even though they will miss Valentine's Day together this year, they are certain to make up for

it in May.

"Last Valentine's Day we got all dressed up and went out to dinner and he got me roses," Allen said.

On Feb. 5, senior Sarah Pennock and her boyfriend Mark Gannon celebrated their nine-month anniversary. The couple met when Pennock studied abroad at York University in York, England in the spring of 2003.

Pennock and Gannon lived in the same dormitory over in England but they did not start dating until five months after she arrived.

"He had a secret crush on me and finally he just took me aside one night in his dorm room and he told me how much he cared," Pennock said.

After Gannon revealed his crush, Pennock kissed him, but as soon as their lips touched someone knocked on the door. Pennock jumped back and ran out of the room. Gannon chased after her, and when he caught up to her she explained to him that their relationship would not work.

"I didn't want long distance, especially not over three thousand miles," Pennock said.

But Pennock got over her fear and began her relationship with Gannon. Although she admits that the high phone bills

keep them from talking every day, they are trying hard to write more e-mails and send care packages. The couple also visits each other whenever possible.

"I just spent my Christmas break with him and he came here for a month in first semester," Pennock said.

Gannon's next visit will be on March 23, so although they won't be spending the special day together, Pennock thinks they will celebrate when he comes to visit.

"We will probably go out for dinner or something," Pennock said. "I'd love to go ice skating."

In retrospect Pennock is happy she made the decision to commit to her boyfriend, despite the distance.

"I couldn't imagine loving anyone more," Pennock said.

♥ A Valentine's Day Apart ♥

Left: Senior Sarah Pennock and boyfriend Mark Gannon won't celebrate until March 23.

Right: Junior Kelly Allen and junior Adam Panza will make up for their holiday apart in May.



Courtesy Dana Murphy

Senior Dana Murphy and Kevin Weinburg at the Renaissance Fair.



Courtesy Sarah Pennock



Courtesy Kelly Allen

Valentine's Fun For Everyone

V-DAY GUIDE, page 4

for the upcoming holiday, there are many more who don't have to worry about buying or making anything for a significant other. Although singles may feel resentful toward Valentine's Day, some take the time to appreciate the other loves of their lives.

"Valentine's Day represents love in general, whether it's for couples, families or even pets," said sophomore Jonathan May, who chooses to celebrate the day by going out to dinner with single friends.

"Any holiday that involves candy is fine by me," said sophomore Kate Paris. She explained how she gathers with her friends to watch "When Harry Met Sally" each year.

"Single folk have a lot of love in their lives too," she added.

The plan that appears to be most popular with those not in a relationship is hanging out with friends.

While some groups want to be as anti-Valentine's Day as possible, others would still like to keep in tune with the theme of the holiday.

One idea for a group of friends is a "secret valentine," which is similar to the concept of "secret Santa." Each participant selects the name of another person and secretly gives

them a small gift every day leading up to Valentine's Day, when they reveal their identities.

Singles can also get together and cook dinner for each other. Different activities can prove to be bonding experience and provide a support group when bashing the holiday.

Anti-Valentine's Day gifts can be exchanged between friends to ease the feeling of nausae experienced by some.

"Bittersweets," available on the Web site despair.com, look like typical candy conversation hearts, but are stamped with bitter messages and spoofs of the original sweet phrases.

Amidst the variety of options students have to pick and choose from, others still can find Valentine's Day to be somewhat disheartening.

Some may decide that celebrating is not for them. They choose alternative ways to spend the day instead.

Sophomore Jacob Kendall-Taylor said what he does on the day "depends on my situation—either crying or more crying."

"The holiday is primarily for couples," he continued. "If you're celebrating alone in your room with a scented candle, then you've got problems."

He died to take away your sins. Not your mind.

You don't have to stop thinking when you walk into our church. Come and join us in an atmosphere where faith and thought exist together in a spirit of fellowship.



© 2002 ChurchAd Project

...All Dressed in White

ENGAGEMENTS, page 4

women get involved in the process to ensure they end up with a ring they will love. At the Design Galley Web site, www.adiamondisforever.com, Internet users can design their own wedding ring.

"I remember going there with a bunch of friends freshman year and we all picked out rings we liked," Riley said. "I always knew I wanted a princess cut [diamond]."

Riley said her fiancé picked out the ring with his dad after she told him what cut she wanted.

"We would talk about it jokingly," Riley said. "I didn't know when he would actually do it though."

Cox said he decided to propose to Castello sometime during the first six months of their relationship and he went to pick out the ring by himself.

"I kinda knew which ring to get from her personality," Cox said. "I knew she was pretty traditional so I got a round cut. I wanted a platinum band because I think it looks better with a diamond and it's more durable."

Cox bought the ring last summer, but waited until December before popping the question.

Campus Courtship

Castello and Cox have known each other since their freshman year at Mary Washington College, but they didn't start dating until they were juniors.

"I don't believe in love at first sight," Cox said. "I came into school dating someone else, but then I met Laura. Apparently she had always liked me and I was attracted to her. I gradually fell in love with her."

Both are biology majors and have had many classes together over the past four years. However, she has found that mixing the relationship with class work can become difficult.

"We are both argumentative people and once when we were in a lab group together it turned into a disaster," Castello said. "Everyone was just laughing at us because we kept arguing over everything. It was really funny."

Riley finds herself with the opposite problem because her fiancée is a sophomore at Virginia Tech.

"The hardest part [of the relationship] is going to different schools," Riley said. "We try to see each other every other weekend and we talk several times a day. We make sure to make our decisions together."

Mosley's fiancée graduated from Mary Washington College last year, but they make time to meet away from campus to prepare for their wedding. The couple has met with the preacher who will be performing the ceremony to discuss different issues that may arise during married life. The preacher gave them a sheet of



Courtesy Laura Castello

Seniors Laura Castello and Brandon Cox on the night of their engagement last December.

questions to take home and discuss on their own.

"The questions asked us about our background and other things that are important to talk about before getting married," Mosley said. "[The counseling] basically made me see that we

really are on the same page and that we both want the same things."

Mosley said they plan to meet with another preacher as well.

"I heard from a lot of my married friends that getting as much advice as possible is good," she said.

Castello and Cox have also recently begun to attend pre-marital counseling sessions with the Catholic priest on campus, the Rev. Ron Escalante, who will be performing their ceremony.

"We had to take a little compatibility test as part of the class," Cox said. "I think it's kinda pointless because I already know we are a good match. The results won't really matter."

Cox hopes to get into medical school at Virginia Commonwealth University, where Castello was accepted. From there, they plan to apply for placement at the same hospital so they can work close together.

"We both want the same things," Cox said. "We both want a lot of family and a lot of land. We both want to work in a rural area, too, so hopefully we get placed together."

Despite concerns about their futures in school, Cox is confident in the love he has found with his fiancée.

"Every day I fall in love with her more and more and deeper," he said.



Sports

Lee-der Of The Pack

Lanky Lefty Has All The Tools To Help The Eagles Defend Their CAC Title

By Jessica Goon
Assistant Sports Editor

When you walk into freshman basketball star Mike Lee's room in Willard Hall, you have to be careful not to trip. There are the orange rubber basketballs lying around his make shift basketball court, the black tape that marks a miniature arc and free throw line, and his Spiderman car. Yes, his Spiderman car.

"Spiderman is my hero because he can do everything. He saves lives, he climbs walls and he can jump really high," Lee said.

The only thing Spiderman might not be able to do is shoot a basketball the way Lee does.

In conference play, the 6'0 shooting guard leads the CAC with a three-point field goal percentage of .494, and in three-point field goals made, averaging 3.8 per game. Lee's perimeter shot also helped the Eagles break a team record in three-point baskets made in a game when he went 6-for-10 from beyond the arc against Marymount.

"He's a very technically sound shooter," Eagles head coach Rod Wood said. "When he misses he misses short or long, never left or right."

But there is more to Lee than his Spiderman sheets, Spiderman pillows, and nice outside shot.

"Mike is someone who can not only bang the three, but also put the ball on the ground and shoot a 15-footer," Wood said.

Lee is difficult to guard because if the defense plays him strong outside he can still take the ball

in and shoot.
"If I penetrate then the defense has to back up. My penetration leads to my success outside," Lee said.

Lee's success earned him CAC player of the week honors on Jan. 27 for his performance during the week of Jan. 19 to 25, 2004. That week Lee scored 19 points in the Eagle's win over Gallaudet, 15 of which came from beyond the arc. He then posted a career-high 28 points in only 24 minutes of play against Salisbury.

These are all impressive stats for a freshman that began the season as the team's leader in turnovers.

"His biggest improvement is understanding the speed of the game," Wood said. "It was trying to force things that weren't there."

Lee agrees. "Everything that just came together for me in high school is different now. It's all twice as fast."

To get ready for the fast-paced college games, Lee will usually say a prayer and listen to music before every game.

"If we have a big game against Catholic or something I'll listen to slow jams because I'm already pumped up," Lee said.

When practice is over Lee still has a chance to work on his game, even in his dorm room. He lives with freshman teammate and childhood friend A.J. Fitzgerald. Lee and Fitzgerald played high school basketball together at Hayfield High School in Alexandria, Va., and have what they call a healthy competition when it comes to basketball.

"When we play 1 v 1 there's never a fair winner because I know what he's going to do and he knows what I'm going to do," Lee said. "It's just whoever gets tired first."

Lee and Fitzgerald plan to continue their basketball connection even after college. Lee wants to

work as a basketball scout, and Fitzgerald as an agent.

"I'll find the talent first, and then I'll send them over to A.J.," Lee said.

"Yeah, then I'll make them big," Fitzgerald added.

Lee did face some tough competition before coming to Mary Washington. When he was 11 years old, Lee played against NBA star LeBron James in a tournament in Ohio.

"I remember [James] scored 48 points in the first half," Lee said. "He didn't even come back in during the second half. I just thought, who is this kid?"

Lee also faced Duke star J.J. Redick his junior year of high school in the state final game. That championship game was one of only 11 games Lee lost in high school.

That's why he chose to become an Eagle.

"I just wanted to go to a winning program because I'm accustomed to winning," Lee said.



Peter Kelley/Bullet
Mike Lee drops it like it's hot.

I Want to Be Like Mike

12.5 avg. points per game

56 three-point shots made

263 overall points scored

Indoor Tennis Center Is Coming

By Lindsay McMahon
Special to the Bullet

If all goes according to plan, Mary Washington College will begin construction of a \$4 million indoor tennis facility this spring at the Battleground Athletic Complex.

The new building will enable Mary Washington College to host national tournaments and gain nation-wide recognition as a successful tennis program.

According to Worley and Associates, the architectural firm hired to design the complex, the facility will consist of six indoor courts, an entry/lobby area, a pro-shop, meeting rooms, team locker facilities, two coaches offices, an elevated viewing concourse, and storage areas. It will be located in the space between the existing outdoor tennis courts and Hanover Street.

"I am sure there are lots of folks excited about this," said Ed Hegmann, director of athletics at Mary Washington College. "I am sure you will also find folks who say this is a terrible waste of money and we should be using it on something academic."

The construction effort will be partially funded by a \$1 million donation from an anonymous donor. An additional \$1.35 million dollars will come from the Pepsi-Cola Company stemming from a bonus that was built into the contract with Mary Washington College as an incentive to sign the agreement to sell only Pepsi products on campus.

According to Rich Hurley, chief financial officer at Mary Washington College, another \$1 million will come from a state revenue bond and the remaining \$500,000 will come from building reserve funds at the college. Neither of these sources will use student money.

The development of this new tennis facility has had its share of problems. During the planning phases of the project, Mary Washington College faced resistance from the National Park Service over preservation issues regarding the location of the new center.

The college had originally dubbed the field behind the outdoor tennis courts as the site for the new center. The area used to be the location of a Catholic School in the 1800s, and the National Park Service wanted to preserve the history that took place on the land



Courtesy tribbeatletics.com

The McCormack - Nagelsen Tennis Center at William & Mary was designed by Worley and Associates.

and prevent Mary Washington College from developing the area.

The college entered a bidding war with the National Park Service to purchase the land. With the support of Congress, the National Park Service outbid Mary Washington College and gained control over the land. Park Service officials finally authorized the new location for the indoor center in early 2003.

Another problem the college faces with the impending construction is the loss of more student parking space.

According to John Wittenmuth, director of facilities services and project manager for the indoor tennis courts, 51 parking spaces will be lost due to the construction of the building. There will be 26 spaces added in front of the new center to accommodate people who are using the facility.

According to Hegmann, Mary Washington College plans to compensate for the loss of the 51 student parking spaces with the construction of a 400 space parking deck behind Goolrick Hall. No timetable has been established for the development or completion of this project.

"The parking deck is currently in the planning stages," Hegmann said.

Mary Washington College selected Worley and Associates as

the architectural design firm for the center in the year 2000. The college has designed indoor tennis centers at the College of William and Mary as well as Virginia Tech.

According to a contract between the Commonwealth of Virginia and Worley and Associates, dated on Dec. 12, 2001, the design and construction costs of the indoor tennis facility should not exceed \$3.5 million, however, it is likely the overall project costs will amount to nearly \$4 million.

Worley and Associates submitted drawings and plans to the Bureau of Capital Outlaying Management, a state agency that oversees inspection of all state projects over \$100,000, during the spring of 2003.

According to Hegmann, Mary Washington College is currently waiting for approval from the Bureau of Capital Outlaying Management to go through with the project.

"When we receive approval from the Bureau of Capital Outlaying Management, we will open up the bidding to construction companies and the lowest bid will get the job as long as they have met every specification," Hegmann said.

Members of the Mary Washington College community have varying opinions on the construction of the new tennis center.

"Not everyone plays tennis, but a lot of people use those parking spots," senior Jenna Fisher said. "We need to do something about the loss of parking spaces. I think the facility will negatively affect a lot more people that it will help."

Kristin Ochsnerreiter, a senior at Mary Washington College, said, "Even though it will only be used by 30 tennis players, it will bring a lot of attention to MWC if we host national tournaments. In the long run, the program may be able to recruit better tennis players to the school."

Those involved with the tennis program at Mary Washington College are very supportive of the project.

"With six courts and all the amenities in our new building, plus our current outdoor [center], visiting prospects to our facility and our campus to aid in our recruiting efforts," said Cindy Hegmann.

◀ See **TENNIS**, page 7

Upcoming Events...

Feb. 13-15 - Swimming CAC Championships 10 a.m./6 p.m.

Feb. 13 - Indoor Track and Field at Susquehanna University

Feb. 14 - Women's Basketball Vs. Gallaudet 2 p.m.

Feb. 14 - Men's Basketball Vs. Gallaudet 4 p.m.

Complete schedules can be found at: <http://www.mwc.edu/hepe>



New Facility Will Eat 51 Student Parking Spaces

► **TENNIS, from page 6**

Vanderberg, head women's tennis coach. "More students and faculty and locals will have the opportunity to cross paths with our teams while using the new facility."

According to freshman tennis player Emily Brimer, the new tennis center will take Mary

Washington to a new level.

"We will finally be able to play all year long and not have to worry about the weather."

According to Hegemann, the facility should be done by the fall of 2005, but Mary Washington College and Worley Associates will not place a deadline for completion in the contract with the construction company.



Eagles Double Up On St. Mary's

Both Men's And Women's Teams Come Up Big In Convincing Victories

By **Dave Buschenfeldt**
Staff Writer

The Mary Washington College women's basketball team bounced back from a rough first half to thump St. Mary's College 70-43 last Saturday in Goolrick Gymnasium.

After the first 20 minutes of play, Eagles head coach Deena Applebury was not pleased with the effort put forth by her players.

"I told the team that we had played St. Mary's for 60 minutes [including a game earlier this season] and we hadn't shown them what we are," Applebury said. "We needed to go out in the second half and show what we can do."

That is exactly what the Eagles did, outscoring St. Mary's 33-13 in the second half to turn what had been a seven-point game at halftime into a blowout victory. Mary Washington held the Seahawks to 18 percent shooting in the second half and 29 percent for the game.

The first half was a battle in which the Eagles were unable to put their opponent away. Each time Mary Washington took a comfortable lead, St. Mary's came right back. A 7-0 run gave the Eagles a 20-13 advantage with nine and a half minutes remaining in the half, but less than two minutes later the Seahawks had tied the game at 22. At halftime Mary Washington held a 37-30 lead.

After Applebury's halftime speech, the Eagles came out with a renewed sense of determination. In the final 20 minutes, they showed St. Mary's that they are much better than they had played in the opening half. Mary Washington started the

second half on a 16-2 run that pushed their lead to 53-32 and they never looked back.

"We're a second half team," said sophomore point guard Diane Frantz, who turned in a 12-point game. "We just had to come out and put them away."

Mary Washington dominated the game on the inside, out-rebounding St. Mary's 42-25 for the game. The low post tandem of sophomore Lindsey Forbush and freshman Debbie Bruen combined to pull down 18 boards.

All five Eagle starters reached double figures in scoring. Forbush led the way with 16 points. Bruen, junior Laura Hanks, and sophomore Jenn Olinger chipped in 11 points apiece.

The win, Mary Washington's sixth in their last seven games, pulled their overall record to 10-10. (6-4 CAC) marking the first time they have reached the .500 mark this season. The Eagles will face Gallaudet University on Saturday at 2 p.m. in Goolrick gymnasium.

**The Eagles welcome
Gallaudet to Goolick
Gymnasium on
Saturday, Feb. 14 at
2 p.m.**

By **Lynne Corey**
Staff Writer

After suffering their only loss of the season to St. Mary's College earlier in the year, the Mary Washington men's basketball team got their revenge last Saturday with a 64-48 victory at Goolrick Gymnasium. The victory is the Eagles' seventh straight, and they have won 10 of their last 11.

This being the second meeting for the two teams this season, the Eagles (15-6, 9-1 CAC) came into this game with a better idea of their opponent's strategy. At the start of the game it appeared to be an evenly matched contest. The Eagles broke away, however, and led 25-16 at the end of the first half.

The difference in this game was the strength on defense. The match up was slightly changed with junior Jon Hurd playing down low. The Eagles also played man-to-man defense the entire game rather than the team's traditional zone defense.

"I'm usually a wingman but they put me down low," Hurd said. "St. Mary's has really good posts. We just worry about guarding their big man. We made that our top priority."

Head coach Rod Wood agreed that the defense was a big factor in the game calling it the best he had seen all year.

"Having played [St. Mary's] the first time, I knew it was going to be a defensive game," Wood said. "This was a team that wasn't going to let us get on the boards offensively or on the perimeter."

Offensively, Mary Washington dominated the ball. The Eagles had 10 three-point shots, and made 18 of the 19 free throws. The Eagles also controlled the offensive rebounds, 11-6.

Freshman Mike Lee also commented on the strength of the defense.

"Our defense made the difference," Lee said. "We held them to 16 points in the first half, and I think in the last game it was 40 points at halftime. This game was different because it was the only team that we lost to in the conference. We came out with a new mentality."

Offensively, Lee contributed 16 points to lead the team. Twelve of them coming from three-point land. Senior captain Evan Fowler also had a big game with 13 points and six assists.

"[St. Mary's] just doesn't have much depth," Wood said. "Getting that quick five points, eight points, unanswered enabled us to get comfortable at the end."

The Eagle's have won seven straight games with a record of 15-6.

**The Eagles welcome
Gallaudet to Goolick
Gymnasium on
Saturday, Feb. 14 at
2 p.m.**



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Black History

The Union Bell Choir from Falmouth performed at the Gospel Extravaganza last Sunday.



Andrew Deci / Bullet

THE *Gospel* TRUTH

By ADELE CHAPIN
STAFF WRITER

Choir groups filled Dodd Auditorium with glorious music on Sunday.

"If you've been blessed, stand up on your feet," they sang. And audience members did just that.

The enthusiastic crowd clapped along, sang along and danced along to the sounds. They cheered soloists and applauded whenever there was a particularly meaningful lyric. They even sang while waiting for groups to file onstage.

When the Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Gospel Choir of Stafford stood on the stage silently waiting as their band set up behind them, the audience waited patiently. The minutes ticked by, and someone in the back of Dodd shouted "It's alright!" The crowd then broke into applause.

The heads of over 600 audience members nodded to the beat, like a wave at a football game.

On stage, blue and gold choir robes fluttered as hands clapped in unison. Choir members swayed back and forth in tune to the music. Their voices filled the auditorium and notes bounced off the walls before floating up to the ceiling.

With complex harmonies, a back-up band, and singers who could easily

rival the average American Idol contestant, the Gospel Extravaganza was a great show.

But that was not the sole intent of the college's Voices of Praise choir, said choir president and senior Mary Stanley, who organized the event. The twelve different gospel choirs from churches and colleges around the area gathered to worship.

Mistress of Ceremony, Minister Peggy Rogers, began the event by saying, "this is not a concert, every one should be involved."

Choir members echoed her sentiments and prayed and quoted Bible verses during their songs. A soloist from Oak Grove Mass Choir of Stafford performed with her back to the audience, singing as she directed the choir.

Rogers introduced a group by saying "Our next performance." She stopped and corrected herself. "Well, no, let's get that right, our next praise," she said.

Rogers introduced each choir, giving a brief biography of each program.

"I don't know what you came here to do, but I came to praise the Lord," she said during the show. "I'm going to kick my shoes off and have a Holy Ghost good time."

The Gospel Extravaganza is in its tenth year at Mary Washington

College, and many in the audience had been to the show in previous years.

"I come every year because I enjoy gospel music," said Charlotte Corbett Parker, who works in Academic Services. "I wanted to support Black History and I know several people in the Voices of Praise."

Freshman Jamie Miranda also came to support friends in Voices of Praise.

"I've never experienced something like this," she said. "It's so powerful, especially with so many groups."

Various college choirs also came to perform at the Extravaganza including BASIC Choir from Longwood University, the Black Awakening Choir from Virginia Commonwealth University, the Gospel Choir of Coppin State College and Black Voices from University of Virginia.

"It was a very spiritual event," said junior Sharena Downey. "They could really sing. I was amazed by it."

Some audience members came for the sense of kinship.

"I love gospel music, and it's a good opportunity to come out and have a part in the community," said Thomas Truslow of Fredericksburg.

Dean of Student Life Cedric Rucker, who sponsored the reception after the show, said the Extravaganza allows Mary Washington College students and the Fredericksburg community the opportunity to

experience one of the many student organizations on campus.

"I always applaud students who play a role in planning events. It's a tremendous undertaking," he said.

The Gospel Extravaganza is one of the events scheduled in the James Farmer Multicultural Center's celebration of Black History Month. Rucker said gospel music was instrumental in the civil rights movement, and referenced by key figures such as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"It goes back to the time of slavery," Rucker said. "Spirituals were used to inspire people to work, to get people through the most painful times of domination and oppression."

Voces of Praise member Lindsay Vaught, a sophomore, said she loves the sound of gospel music.

"I like that we can move around and dance and have fun with it and use our whole bodies and personalities to celebrate Christ," Vaught said.

As the program reached the three hour mark, audience members began slipping out the door, with the chores and duties of life calling. But at 7:30 p.m., when the final group ended their song, many remained. The singers and



Andrew Deci / Bullet

Young members of Stafford's Bethlehem Primitive Baptist Gospel Choir.

their friends and family continued celebrating at the reception held for the performers after the show.

As Peggy Rogers said during the program, "I knew I was going to have a good time before I got here, but Lord, have I been blessed."



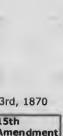
14th, 1817



1st, 1865
13th Amendment abolishes slavery



23rd, 1968
W.E.B. Dubois born



3rd, 1870
15th Amendment ratified
Hiram Revels, 1st black senator, takes oath



1st, 1902
Langston Hughes born
NAACP established



12th, 1956
Montgomery Bus boycott



1st, 1960
Woolworth lunch counter sit-in



21st, 1965
Malcolm X assassinated

11th, 1980
Nelson Mandela released

FEBRUARY IN BLACK HISTORY: A TIMELINE

Black History Month Events



Courtesy loc.gov

George E.C. Hayes, Thurgood Marshall and James Nabrit, shake hands after the Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka victory outside the U.S. Supreme Court. This year, Black History Month celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the milestone.

Tonight

BSA Talent Show:
7 p.m. In Dodd
Admission \$2, proceeds go to local charity

Wed, Feb. 18

Black History Month Dinner:
4 p.m. to 7 p.m. In Seacock Dining Hall

Sat, Feb. 21

Step Show & Competition:

7 p.m. In Dodd

Admission prices vary

Tues, Feb. 24

Lecture:
"Slave Narratives: The Legacy of Slavery in the African-American Community"
7 p.m. in Combs 139

Student Lecture Series

Students from the college, past and present, are speaking on topics relevant to African-American and African Diaspora.

All Lectures are at 7 p.m. in Combs 237.

Monday, Feb. 16

Sophomore Tamia Gillard: "Have You Been Bamboozled: An Examination of Bamboozled and the History of Minstrelsy."

Thursday, Feb. 19

Senior Theodore Lewis: "Black / White Relationships in Cinema: Save the Last Dance"

The Black Student Association is sponsoring Black History trivia games at their Monday meetings at 5 p.m.
Visit Meeting Room 4 at the Woodard Campus Center.

Letters to the Editor

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We have issues
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opinion letters to
bullet@mwc.edu

Celebrating History

**By JENNIFER WOOTEN
STAFF WRITER**

This year, the Black History Month committee celebrates the fiftieth anniversary of Brown vs. the Board of Education.

Student clubs hope to educate their campus community by sponsoring a variety of events dedicated to black history and achievement.

"During Black History Month, like every other month, [the Black Student Association] wants to educate our community on the issues and concerns of African-American culture and heritage. As well as enlighten them on the contributions of African-Americans in history," said Senior Ryan Butts, co-president of the Black Student Association.

Greta Franklin, chair of the Black History Month Committee and student counselor of the James Farmer Multicultural Center, said education will be a focus throughout February.

"It is important to sit down and say what is education today. Is it equal for everyone?"

New this year is the Student Lecture Series, presentations led by students. They are designed to create dialogue between students and make students feel more involved in Black History Month.

"The lecture series deals with issues which are thought provoking and provocative," Franklin said.

Each lecture is about 20 minutes followed by 10 minutes of interactive discussion.

"The lectures are more focused on college level issues," said Senior Ted Lewis, co-president of Black Student Association.

Lewis will be giving two lectures this month.

His Feb. 19 lecture is titled "Black/White Relationships in Cinema: Save the Last Dance." It will focus on the film "Save the Last Dance" and deal with issues

concerning interracial relationships, he said.

Sophomore Tamia Gillard, president of Brothers of a New Direction (B.O.N.D.), will present a lecture titled, "Bamboozled: Have You Been Bamboozled and the History of Minstrelsy" on Feb. 16.

"I hope the lectures get students more involved, maybe more would come to see their peers speak," Lewis said.

From 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Feb. 18, Seacock dining hall will feature food that represents a variety of African cultures.

The food—macaroni and cheese, rice pilaf, fried okra and more—represents regions such as the American South, Nigeria, Ethiopia and the Caribbean, and provides an inside look at the diversity of the African culture.

"It is important to examine what is black, to see the diversity within the black community," Franklin said.

The dinner is available to only Mary Washington College students and employees.

The Black Student Association will host its fifth annual talent show tonight at 7 p.m. in Dodd Auditorium.

This year the talent show includes many bands, an R&B singer and a dancer.

Raffle tickets will also be given out at the door.

Each year a portion of the proceeds from the talent show are given to a local charity. This year the money will go towards Habitat for Humanity.

Admission is \$2.

To supplement their events, the Black Student Association will have trivia games during their Monday meetings in Meeting room 4 of Woodard Campus Center at 5 p.m.

"Hopefully the events of Black History Month will provide

entertainment as well as a better understanding of Black History for the whole campus and the Fredericksburg community," Senior Osasii Airhiavbere, BSA member and publicity chair of Women of Color said.

One of the most popular events is the Fifteenth Annual Step Show and Competition, sponsored by Women of Color and B.O.N.D. In past years the show has always sold out.

The show brings step teams from local high schools and college sororities and fraternities.

The three categories will each compete for a separate \$500 grand prize.

"Stepping" is a dance art form that combines military drills with contemporary jazz and hip-hop. Teams compete to show who can step the best.

Four fraternities—Phi Beta Sigma of Virginia State University, Kappa Alpha Psi of Virginia Union University, Alpha Phi Alpha of Norfolk State University and Iota Phi Theta of Morgan State University—are participating in the show this year. The two sororities participating are Alpha Kappa Alpha of Longwood University and Theta Nu Xi of Virginia Tech.

This year eight high schools are participating including Brooke Point, Garfield, Centreville and Tallwood.

"The step show promotes black culture and attracts the campus and Fredericksburg community to college Greek life, which is something they wouldn't normally see at Mary Washington, but is popular at most other schools," Airhiavbere said.

The step show will be held in Dodd Auditorium on Feb. 21 at 5 p.m. Admission is \$5 for Mary Washington College students.

Following the show, there will be a party in Great Hall of the campus center, free for Mary Washington College students.

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Sunday February 15th
Love Actually 2 p.m.



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Scene

Senior Art Show Begins Friday, Feb. 13

By Melissa Ng
Staff Writer

The four artists are Kelly Ailsbrook, April Gross, Erin Haile, and Stephanie Lee.

The opening night for the Senior Art Exhibition, "Native," is on Friday, Feb. 13 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the DuPont Gallery. Artwork will be on display in DuPont Gallery through February 22.

"It's a form of entertainment. Just as actors have theatrical productions, musicians have concerts and albums, fine artists have exhibitions," said Stephanie Lee, one of the four artists in the Senior Art Show.

"We really try to stress the opening as the best time to come to the exhibition since it will be a chance for the public to meet the artists personally and talk to them about their work," said Erin Haile.

The show is open to all students, faculty, staff and the general public, at no cost. On opening night, the seniors will hold a reception with food and music.

"I heard about the art show from a few friends of mine and I rather focus my time and effort in positively entertaining myself rather than watching [what's on] TV today," said Junior Christine Olsen.

"I'll definitely attend the show just because it sounds like fun and it also gets rid of some of the monotony of my poor college life," said Junior Tim Ryan.

Lee encourages people to come see all the art shows so that guests can see how the outside world influences ideas and may then be executed in fine art form.

"It gives a chance for the mind to opened to new ways of looking at things," she said.

Every year, each senior that chooses to participate in the exhibition is assigned a date in which their show will open. That date and assignment is up to the Studio Art department. Usually four students are placed in a show to ensure that all seniors wishing to show their work through an exhibition will have the chance.

On average, there are about four to six shows a school year.

Each senior is required to submit roughly four to seven pieces depending on the scale and quality of each piece.

Junior Nicole Casbolt said, "I really respect art majors and artists. One of my old roommates used to leave in the morning to work on her art and I wouldn't see her until after midnight."

Participant Erin Haile said that as an art major, she has literally spent the night in the studio working.

"Art majors seem to get together more often simply because we eat, sleep, live, and breathe in the studio," she said. "What can I say? We're devoted."

Haile reiterates how much time it takes to complete artwork.

"I personally have been working on the artwork that will be on display for this show since I started the Art Program here at Mary Washington," said Haile.

Haile has been expanding her artistic ability and implementing skills for a long time.

"I've been creating art since grade school. However, I have not taken it as seriously as I have in the past few years while at college," she said. "I knew that coming into the major that my senior show would be approaching, so I worked hard to create work of 'show quality' throughout all of my Studio Art classes."

"I've been working on art since I was 16 years old, a junior in high school," Lee said.

"I started planning for the show over winter break because I knew that's when I'd have the most time," she said. "Hours and hours of work are involved with planning and placement of pieces in the gallery," she said. "Effort is a huge factor and each student works extremely hard to

make their shows a success."

Studio Art majors on average spend more money than any other major because they have to purchase the majority of the materials themselves.

"Not only do we spend a decent amount of money to



Courtesy Melissa Ng

These are two of the artworks that are being featured at the Senior Art Show Friday, Feb. 13 through Sunday, Feb. 22, 2004.

Lee's art is centered around graphic design. "That is my specific medium and it is my goal to become a graphic designer after I graduate."

Lee takes digital photographs and manipulates them in Adobe Graphics packages on the computer. She makes both abstract and representation art. She submitted 10 wall-hangings.

The other group members created mostly ceramics and sculpture, however, they also produced textile design and photography.

"I feel that in this century, people really do not appreciate education and creativity anymore."

Olsen said, "When we were younger, my mom brought me to museums and we listened to classical music."

"Now society wastes their time watching cartoon sponges jump and sing," said Olsen. "I, personally, rather spend my time appreciating art. It is one way I can hold onto my childhood."

The DuPont Gallery is located in DuPont Hall on College Avenue at Thornton Street. Free parking is designated for gallery visitors in the lot across College Avenue at Thornton Street. For more information, call the Mary Washington College Galleries at (540) 654-1013.

create the artwork that we do, the time spent in producing the work is more priceless," Haile said.

"Depending on the pieces you choose, the cost could be as much as several hundred dollars," Lee said.

Some of the pieces at the exhibition may be up for sale. "So that's another good reason to get the public involved," said Haile. "They take home art, and our artwork gets out in public."

Haile will be submitting work from a variety of media. Such work include ceramics, textiles, photography, printmaking and drawing.

E-Baby Transforms Others' Experiences Into Poetry

By Kathryn Hershberger
Staff Writer

The air was tense and the crowd was silent in the Underground Friday, as poet E-Baby recounted the death of a young daughter whose life was cut short by a gunshot wound. He was moved nearly to tears, his emotions rising with his voice.

The poem ended and after a dramatic pause E-Baby said "I've never been married. I've never had any kids. It's just poetry."

It is no wonder why this poem, "Da-dab's Angel," is what E-Baby calls his "signature piece".

"Someone might not know your name," E-Baby said. "You're known for the piece."

The poem is also one of his favorites.

"But only if I cry," E-Baby said.

E-Baby, also known as Eric Smith, has been writing poetry for only four years, yet has a surprising amount of empathy towards unknown people and situations, including women.

His poems describe issues like domestic violence and pregnancy with clarity that makes one wonder where he gets such detailed information.

He is inspired by those around him.

"I ask ladies and friends questions," he said. "I take opinions and turn it into poetry."

Though many of his poems focus on intense issues, E-Baby does not take himself too seriously.



Courtesy Peter Kelley/Bullet

Slam Poet E-Baby, also known as Eric Smith performing at the Underground.

In the poem "Addicted" he said "My name is E-Baby and I'm addicted to the pen." He proceeded to pull out a blue Bic pen and stroked it lovingly.

E-Baby tries to teach through his poetry, as well as entertain.

"Don't limit yourself," he said. "Try anything."

► See POET; page 11

Orbits Closes Bands Still Booked To Play

By Lesley Johnson
Scene Editor

There is no longer an "Orbits Downtown Eatery" in Fredericksburg. The bar and restaurant closed as of Monday, Feb. 9, 2004.

Orbits threw one last shindig to go out with a bang. People from the community, as well as, Mary Washington College students, came out to say their goodbyes.

The co-owners, Tony Scott and Leo Levy were unavailable for questioning as to why they had to close Orbits.

According to Senior Kiki Skove, the co-owners told their employees, "There weren't enough finances to support the expenses."

Crowds of people showed up on Monday. Nobody could move because there were so many people present. The owners chose not to have any cover charges for their guests last night with them.

At 11:30 p.m., Orbits officially ran out of beer and Tom Schiff, the open mic coordinator, told the audience to start having some mixed drinks.

Orbits designated the last night to an "Open Mic" and had a sign in sheet for any bands that wanted to perform. At 11:45 p.m. the owner apologized that no one else could sign up on the sheet to perform because they were running out of time.

Orbits was supposed to close on Friday, Feb. 13, 2004, but they decided to close on Monday, Feb. 9, 2004 instead causing Friday's upcoming show to be cancelled.

► See ORBITS, page 11

Top 3 Movies

Courtesy of imbd.com



1. **Barbershop 2:** Back in Business



2. **Miracle**



3. **You Got Served**

New CDs This Week

From the top left:

Keith Urban "In the Ranch"
Kylie Minogue "Body Language"
Drag-On "Hell and Back"
Melissa Etheridge "Lucky"

Note: All CD release dates were Feb. 10, 2004
All CD cover art courtesy of allmusic.com



What Is The Best Saying On A Conversational Heart?

Photos and Interviews By Lesley Johnson and Beth Wingard



"I miss you."



"Fax me."



"Suck me."



"The classic, 'Be mine.'"



"Friends 4 Eva."

--Colin Jones,
sophomore

--Jessica Mitchell,
Junior

--Lindsay Shaffer,
Junior

--Emily Guise,
Sophomore

--Ali Samantar,
Junior

E-Baby's CD Is Available At The Bookstore

◀ POETRY, page 10

He also tells aspiring musicians to copyright their work. If they cannot afford the \$30 the U.S. Copyright Office charges, they can mail their work to themselves. E-Baby says that this is legal and will hold up in court, as long as they do not open the envelope.

He learned this because he works at the Library of Congress

Besides copyright loopholes, he aims to teach awareness and behavior. "Poetry opens the minds of people because they're there to listen," he said.

It is now easier for people to listen. E-Baby is usually heard on WPGC radio in Washington, D.C., but will soon be able to reach a wider

audience with the release of his new 20-track CD. The CD, titled *My Thoughts Are in This Ink*, features four other poets and is available Friday at the bookstore and on E-Baby's website at ebabypoems.com.

The CD will be a representation of E-Baby's live performance. He performed not only as a poet, but much like a storyteller.

He did not need overzealous movements or a fast tempo to get the audience's attention. He let his words speak for him, punctuated by pauses and facial expressions.

Though he may not always speak from first-hand experience, E-Baby's poems are an honest insight into love, pain, loneliness, humor, sex, and sorrow—feelings all people understand.

**"Don't limit
yourself. Try
anything."**

--E-Baby

Orbits Lands Gig For The "Lowboys"

◀ ORBITS, page 10

Even though Orbits was closing, that did not stop people from having a good time. Tons of smiling faces packed the building, as well as the dance floor, leaving little room for walking.

Senior Eddie Dickerson, member of the band Hunkel-Funk, recalls playing shows there in January.

"I am going to miss Orbits terribly," Dickerson said. "Hunkel-Funk played about three shows here in the last month and everyone was really having a great time and we are really going to miss this venue."

Several bands got their first gigs at Orbits including Lowboys which played on closing night.

"We had our first gig on Jan 27, 2001," said Michael Bayne, member of Lowboys. "Before that, we played at one of their Open Mic's and it was really awesome. It gave us a chance to come in and nobody knew who we were and we

had no credibility, but they gave us an opportunity to meet people and we got a gig out of it. They are just changing names and they have three or four times. I've known it as Orbits and it will always be Orbits to me."

The community also came out to wish Orbits a farewell.

"We've come here before," said Jan Downs, resident of Fredericksburg. "We just wanted to come and to be here to say goodbye."

Tom Schiff, who runs the Open Mic's, was unavailable for questioning because he was racing around the stage making sure each band that signed up for the "Open Mic" night were all set to go on stage at their scheduled times.

Between sets, Schiff had positive words for the onlooking audience.

"So if you look around, what you're looking at, this is our community," he said. "Right here. We are all a part of one family. Orbits has been the place we have hung out, but with or without it, we are still a community."

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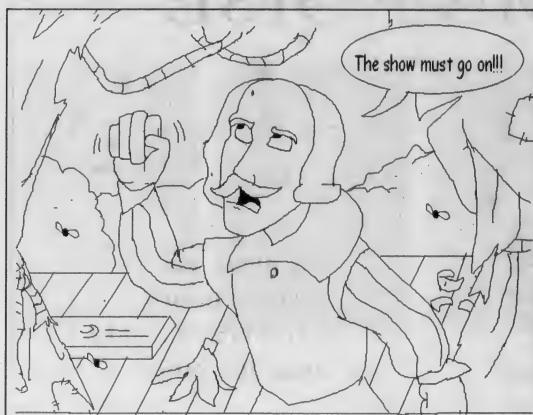
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Even though the Theatre Department was facing severe cutbacks, the theatre majors remained hopeful...

Cartoon by Sara Nemati

There's No Excuse For Neglecting James Farmer

Dear Editor:

I came in on Friday, Feb. 6th to view the display of Dr. James Farmer in the Simpson Library.

I was very disappointed by what I saw. I spoke to the receptionist about the display and she told me that it was still in the process of being worked on.

Her reply was contradictory because information about the display being ready for view by public has been printed since January. Therefore, it should have been completed.

There is no excuse for not being able to find any information for the display of Dr. Farmer because with all the resources at the college, I think that someone could have contacted the other departments, such as the Multicultural Center or the James Farmer Scholars Office.

The outcome of coming to see that only two books and a picture of him was not enough,



for the appreciation for Black History Month.

Erika Hilliard is an administrative assistant in the James Farmer Scholars Office

especially with the late Dr. Farmer being such an important figure to Mary Washington College.

I think that he has contributed so much to the college as well as the community.

It is so ridiculous to have something displayed in that matter

for the appreciation for Black History Month.

Erika Hilliard is an administrative assistant in the James Farmer Scholars Office

Unexplained Occurrences MWC Defies Rationality

By ANDREW McAFFEE
Guest Columnist

During my first week at this school, I bought a pair of boxer shorts from the bookstore. I was a freshman and I wanted something with the name of my new college. It wasn't until I got them home that I noticed the shorts had no fly or rear tag. In fact, the shorts bore no indication as to which side faced forward. I wore them one way for a while, and I wore them the reverse for a while. Neither seemed quite right and in four years, I have never figured them out. My friend Taylor pointed out that this was the perfect metaphor for life at this school.

Where has honor gone at Mary Washington College? I don't think it was ever here. Sure, it was a great topic for application essays, and it gives the school the power to levy hefty punishments for infractions, but is the honor code there for students when we need it?

Professors leave the room when they administer exams. There is no key system to the lockers at Goolrick. Piles of bookbags and belongings sit at the entrance of Seacobeck unguarded. These are supposed to be signs of the honor system, but in truth, they are a liability to students because it puts us at the mercy of individuals who choose not to follow the rules.

Yet, when you visit the bookstore to buy your textbooks, you are required to check your bags. Is the bookstore concerned that the honorable students of Mary Washington College might steal from it? Is the school not willing to put faith in the honor system even though it asks it of us? I find it insulting that I have to trust my fellow students but the school won't trust me.

Why do I have to spend a whole afternoon turning in a form? The school is so decentralized that I have to visit multiple offices.

for explaining my situation to five different people in five different places.

DuPont Hall held a senior art exhibition last week, displaying some amazing original work from several talented students. Instead of reporting on this occasion, *The Bullet* chose to do a page and a half on penises made of snow. The pictures drove the unfortunate situation home, featuring the superior Virginia Tech snow penes, which proved that not only are Mary Washington College freshmen not original, they are also anatomically uninformed. But it also demonstrated that our school paper doesn't know what's news.

All of my frustration will dissipate in less than three months when I graduate. There are a lot of things I won't miss about this school. I find it particularly fitting that the new name, "University of Mary Washington" makes no literal sense. It's symbolically suited to a school that constantly defies reason.

Andrew McAfee is a senior

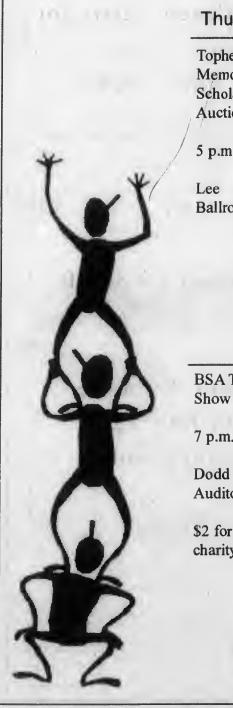
The Weekly Wassup

What to do... Where to go!?

February 12 - February 18



Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Topher Bill Memorial Scholarship Auction 5 p.m. Lee Ballroom	International Hip Hop Dance 9 p.m.-1 a.m. Underground Free w/ MWC ID	Cheap Seats Cinema Intolerable Cruelty 7 p.m. Love Actually 10 pm Dodd Auditorium \$1	Cheap Seats Cinema Love Actually 2 p.m. Dodd Auditorium \$1	Black History Month Student Perspectives 7 p.m. Underground Combs 237	Speaker: Daryl Davis 7 p.m. Underground Sponsored by Sisters with a Vision	Black History Month Dinner 4-7 p.m. Seacobeck
BSA Talent Show 7 p.m. Dodd Auditorium \$2 for charity	Kindertransport 8 p.m. DuPont Klein Theatre \$2 with MWC ID	Kindertransport 8 p.m. DuPont Klein Theatre \$2 with MWC ID	Kindertransport 2 p.m. DuPont Klein Theater \$2 with MWC ID	Lecture: From Ball Circle to the Bronx and Beijing 5 p.m. Trinkle 210	Great Lives Series Thomas Jefferson 7:30 p.m. Great Hall	



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Two Levels of fun!

Two Levels of fun!

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THURSDAY NIGHT

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please
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MINUTES

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Candidate's Wife Speaks

By PETER KELLEY
Photo Editor

The last time Elizabeth Edwards experienced crowds in Lee Hall was when she went to the Sea Shack to have her favorite bowl of vegetable soup. Last Thursday, Edwards, a former student of Mary Washington College and the wife of Democratic presidential candidate Sen. John Edwards (D) N.C., returned to Lee Hall to face a different type of crowd.

Speaking on behalf of her husband's presidential campaign to members of the college and the city a week before the Virginia Democratic primary, Edwards realized a lot changed in the last thirty years since she was a student at Mary Washington College.

Peter Kelley: If you don't mind me asking,

what years were you a student here at Mary Washington?

Elizabeth Edwards: That's alright. I came here in 1967. Back in those days, if you were a freshman, you wore a little red beamie with Mary Washington on the front of them for several weeks so that you could be identified as freshman. Although I am certain you were identifiable anyway.

I lived in Mary Ball Hall my freshman year. I had a roommate who was a junior. I was one of the freshmen who did not live in the freshman dorms, but that was a good experience for me. And I remember that year we voted on whether or not we had to continue to wear dresses to class. The student body voted on whether or not you could start

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Theatre Budget Cut

By ANDREW HALL
Assistant News Editor

Theatre students are concerned about the department's production budget, which has been cut to progressively lower levels in past years.

Student theatre department representatives said they fear their educational quality will diminish if students are not able to perform a sufficient number of productions per year. Administrators said they are doing their best to fund a myriad of programs in the face of budget cuts.

The theatre department's production budget is financed by a supplemental fund, funded with the student body's comprehensive fees, according to Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Rick Hurley. Hurley said this supplemental fund is separate from the departmental operating budget, which is funded with academic money, from tuition and the state.

The theatre department's budget was cut for the first time in the 2001-02 school year from \$25,000 to \$21,000. It was cut last year to \$19,500 and remains unchanged this year.

"I find it funny that a liberal arts institution doesn't necessarily seem to support the arts," senior theatre and dance department representative Becca Murray said.

Murray said she was concerned the college is not taking the theatre department's production budget seriously as an academic pursuit.

"We're kind of lumped in with extracurricular activities and we are not an extracurricular activity," she said.

She also said it is part of the theatre department's

curriculum that students participate in the production of performances. She said the students will be unprepared for a career in acting if they do not get enough production experience in college.

"Our lab experience is when we're doing shows at the school," Murray said. "It's just like a biology student taking a lab class where they dissect a fetal pig. They have to do that in order to be successful in medical school."

Junior theatre and dance department representative Marie LePage echoed Murray's concern for theatre students' post-college preparation. She said the department cannot afford to perform musicals, an area of theatre where there are lots of jobs for college graduates. "If we can't do a musical here, that's one whole chunk of knowledge that our students don't have when they go out into the world," she said. "People who graduate from the theater department are actually going to work in that field. So if we don't have a practice, we're going to go out with absolutely no experience, and we're not going to get jobs."

Theatre and dance department chair Gregg Stull said the department is now putting on four shows on a budget sufficient for three shows. Murray said ideally, the department would like to put on four shows and one musical and have a production budget of \$30,000.

Dean of Academic Affairs Phil Hall said any budget cut affects several departments.

"If there are budget cuts everyone will share in those," Hall said. "There certainly isn't any

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Senate Constitution Changes Pass

By COREY BYERS
Staff Writer

On Sunday Feb. 8, the Student Government Association Senate ratified changes to fix problems with the existing constitution including adjustments to election procedures.

In addition, it altered what elected and appointed positions can be held by members of the senate.

On Monday, the student body of Mary Washington College voted to pass the changes in the new constitution.

According to Lesley Johnson, publicity co-chair of senate and scene editor for *The Bullet*, the ratification of the constitution ended weeks of both scheduled and emergency meetings.

The meetings were held to formulate changes that would make the election process less confusing. Johnson explained how residential and commuter students were elected under the old constitution.

She said before Monday in the old constitution, each senate position represented 50 students in a given residence hall. For every 30 students that exceeded the total number of senate positions, another senate position would be added.

"Commuting students can be a senator if they want," Johnson said. "But they don't have a vote in the senate but we changed that for next year."

She said currently there are many positions that have gone unfilled.

"Right now we are lacking enough senators to accurately represent the student body," Johnson said. Because of this there are residence halls with more representation than others.

Erin Price, the SGA Senate Rules and Procedures Committee co-chairperson, described how the senators will be elected under the new constitution.

"Residential senators are elected in the same way," Price said. "After the final election if there are open spots a student can get a petition of 50 signatures and bring it to the senate."

She said petitions would then have to be approved by the senate. In a case such as this, the approved student would be considered an elected senator.

Price further explained how commuters will now be represented.

"Before commuters were just made senators but were technically without a vote," she said. "Senators will now be elected for commuters. There will be one senator for every 50 commuters."

"If someone was on the Judicial Review Board and they were a senator they would vote on legislation regarding judicial affairs twice," she said.

She said in such a situation there would be a conflict of interest.

Johnson said the senate decided to ratify the

more this year compared to other years," she said.

According to residence life the assistant directors of residence life staff, who trained the resident assistants over the summer of 2003, is 75 percent new this year, which could mean most of the resident assistant staff is being trained differently than in past years.

"Our training was extensive and thoroughly prepared us to do our jobs," said Caitlin Kelly, a sophomore and a resident assistant in Alvey Hall.

"Not only were we told what to do, when to do it, and when to enforce the rules, but ethically how to do it."

Tuttle said he believes resident assistants are being more vigilant about documenting students who violate college policy, but that it is important not to rule out an overall increase in students simply breaking the rules.

He said other colleges across the country are experiencing the same hikes in the number of incidents as Mary Washington College.

"Colleagues from all over the country are seeing a similar phenomenon — more students are violating college policies this year than in the recent past, or at least more of these violations are coming to the attention of the colleges and universities," he said.

Kelly said she agreed.

"A number of the residents in this building seem to have a blatant disregard for authority — they think they're invincible," she said.

Tuttle said he noticed a change in student attitudes as well and he believes this is indeed a nation-wide phenomenon.

Tuttle said the majority of students charged with breaking college policy this year were freshmen. He said this is also the case around the country.

"Students who are coming to college now are different," he said. "They have different influences and they are different sociologically. Although this phenomenon is too new to have any solid reasons, there could be many contributing factors."

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Sophomore Senate VP Katie Kelly, Sophomore Senate Parliamentarian Paul Kozar and Sophomore Senate Secretary Megan Cudahy at the SGA Constitution revision.

Price said from now on commuters will have a vote in the senate.

Another major change in the constitution clarifies what elected and appointed positions can be held by senators. Price said the previous constitution allowed for overlapping positions within the SGA.

"Now a senator can hold one appointed position outside of the senate in another branch of the SGA," she said. "For elected executive board members...that is the only position you can hold."

Johnson said there was a problem with the old constitution in regards to overlapping positions and passing legislation.

constitution because of problems that arose when Rebecca Turnbull, the former SGA president-elect, was forced to leave her office.

In a *Bullet* article written on Oct. 23, 2003, it said Turnbull, a former student and SGA president-elect, pled guilty to stealing over \$1,800 in residence hall funds.

Johnson said the SGA vice president at the time, Kristen Orsted, took over the presidential position but was also responsible for the duties of the vice president.

She said the old constitution did not provide a way to fill the vice president's seat.

She clarified how the executive board's vice president position will be filled in the future if the

senate resolution vote had to be unanimous so it didn't go through," Scheiber said. "It should have been carried by a three-fourths vote."

He said in this situation only one person voted against the resolution which prevented it from passing.

Furthermore, Scheiber conducted his own on-campus surveys of about 150 to 200 students on campus.

He called students and asked them what they thought the SGA's role on campus should be.

"More than two-thirds thought that the SGA should have a more direct role in what happens on campus," Scheiber said.

Johnson and Price both said the constitution had to be passed on Monday in order for it to go into effect for the upcoming elections.

Elections will be held on Feb. 25 and Feb. 26 for the executive cabinet.

Her Side Of The Story

Senator Edwards' Wife Speaks To MWC Community

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wearing pants to class, and the vote? We lost the vote. The vote went in favor of dresses and against pants. We were here a couple of years after you had to wear white gloves and stockings to the dining hall so it was a time of great change. They hadn't completely made the switch since dresses won in the student body elections which was pretty amazing.

PK: Where did you live your sophomore year?

EE: Randolph, I lived in Randolph my sophomore year.

PK: So did I.

EE: Is that right?

PK: Yeah it's a pretty crazy dorm here.

EE: It's hard for me to imagine boys in Randolph. I spent a lot of time in Chandler hall though. I expected to be an English major. And actually left here when my father moved to North Carolina. At the time, my parents left and so it was easy to move to North Carolina, but did I want to go with them or stay here?

At this time there was a woman who wanted to go to English graduate school and she was having a little bit of trouble just because people had heard of the University of Virginia, but hadn't heard of Mary Washington. She now heads the writing department at Duke. She obviously got a great start here at Mary Washington. North Carolina had a great program in American Literature which is what I wanted to do, so I did transfer there and went to English graduate school, before going to law school, all at Chapel Hill.

PK: What career did you pursue after law school at Chapel Hill?

EE: I went to English graduate school for the first three years after my undergraduate because there were no jobs. There was a great professor here—I was hoping to have a life like his—Dr. Glover. He was at Mary Washington for a long time. I wanted to teach English and American literature.

But the fact was that there were so few jobs. Things were looking pretty bleak so I switched to law school, where I met John. That turned out great.

I clerked for a federal judge outside of Norfolk for a year and then John and I took jobs in Nashville, Tennessee for three years and then I came back to North Carolina, where I worked first in the attorney general's office for awhile which was good because the hours were pretty regular and my client was the Department of Natural Resources. Finally I went on to practice for a small office doing commercial litigation and I quit practice in 1996, after 18 years.

PK: What did you do after 1996?

EE: Our oldest son Wade died in April of 1996 and I quit practicing. I started doing work associated with a foundation that we started in his name. So we started an after school center that opened in October of 1996.

I was volunteering over there from two in the afternoon until 10 at night. It kept me pretty busy. I think it was a great thing for the young people who were there and a great thing for me too.

PK: Your husband's reputation and career as a trial lawyer has come under a lot of criticism especially within the Republican party. I remember President Bush singled out trial lawyers in his State of the Union address in 2003 and the camera actually panned in on your husband.

If your husband receives the nomination, do you think that this will be a huge issue and do you think that the Republicans will attack your husband's case work in his former occupation and the occupation as a whole?

EE: I remember how John was sitting with a stern look on his face and looking sternly at the camera while the president was making his remarks. This president is in a very bad place to make this kind of an attack. People already think he sides with big and powerful interests. John and his work have worked for the little guy. He's worked for families and children. John has already said in a speech in December 2003 at [Democratic National Committee] winter meetings, basically if the president wants this fight, if he wants to say this standing with insurance companies and HMO's, [John Edwards]

[is] going to stand with the children and families.

I say bring it on. This is a fight I don't think [Bush] wants. He wants it from a distance, but when it's face-to-face, man-to-man, it's an argument that he doesn't want. They made this argument in the Senate race too with our success. Particularly because of the work John did and how scrupulous he was about making certain that was taking good cases.

[That will] make it very difficult for the president to demonize John, who was essentially called by a newspaper down in Raleigh the "Avenging Angel" of the truly sympathetic and struggling families against the kind of people who have been George Bush's friends. I think that it's a bad fight for them.

PK: The other night in South Carolina, your husband spoke about two Americas: one of the privileged and one of the underprivileged. Do you absolutely agree with your husband and if so, do you have any other thoughts on that?

EE: I thought that it was a wonderful speech and he had called me a few days beforehand and said, "This is the framework I want to use in South Carolina, and what do you think?" Half asleep, I said, "Sounds fine to me." But he gave the speech and got a tremendous response for it. Someone called it an American Moment. Someone also said to me it was the "best ten minutes of political

speak ever." He got calls from a lot of people who said how terrific it was.

He wasn't just making a political argument, he was making an argument which is what he's been doing on the trail. The two Americas that he speaks about really do exist.

We need to make certain that we bring our attention not to fighting people at the top but to closing that gap to bringing closer. We are an extremely divided country and that's not going to change until some of the things that divide us are removed.

The education system is a great example. There are these huge differences and what's happening and how it is affecting people who can control what's going on and who are just making their best through whatever currents hit them.

PK: At the end of this year, at the end of this election, Sen. Edwards has said that if he doesn't receive the nomination, well rather, it has been rumored that he won't accept the vice presidential nomination, he will go back to private life. What are your thoughts on that? On the record is that what your husband feels?

EE: I think that there are a couple of things happening. I want to make clear that I don't think that there is anything that any of the Democratic nominees, our candidates wouldn't do to have the Democratic ticket won.

I think that if you ask any of them, they would do everything they possibly could to make certain the Democratic ticket wins in 2004. That's the reason each of them are winning. I think that idea of him being vice president is an idea perpetuated in order to suggest that even though you like John Edwards, even though you respond to John Edwards, you don't need to vote for him because he could be on the ticket anyway.

That's wrong-headed because it's important to him. It's important for him to be at the top of the ticket because he's the candidate who can bring in electoral votes we need to win in states that Democrats have written off. If he is the vice presidential nominee, does it have the same effect?

History tells you that it doesn't have the same effect. He's an enormously intelligent and dynamic person but as the vice presidential nominee, he can bring in this momentum in the states where we need it? I hope so. I hope that would be the case. I hope he could do it, no matter where he stood, but the truth is if we want to win these states and we have to win these states, he has to be at the top of the ticket.



Peter Kelley/Bullet
Elizabeth Edwards, wife of Sen. John Edwards.

JRB Balances The Scales

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He said he believes the increased media image of college as one big party is giving students the wrong idea about institutions of higher education.

Bielecki said she agreed.

"Though a four year party would be great, it is not a reality and I think students realize that at some point in their first year here," Bielecki said.

She said she believes this idea about college has been around for a while, but the media often does paint a false

image of the whole college experience.

Tuttle and Bielecki are both interested in discovering the reasons for the spike in incidents this year, but Tuttle said it is important to remember that although the number of students who break the rules has gone up, they are still a minority.

"We're doing everything to encourage students to not violate college policy," Tuttle said. "But I believe that the majority of students at Mary Washington do behave ethically and have respect for their community."



Courtesy hgcmc.com
Scales of Justice.

Budget Is Cut, Theatre Suffers

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movement to punish theatre in particular."

Hall said that he wants to get the theatre budget back to a reasonable level, but must also juggle that with other comprehensive fee-supported programs like faculty recruitment and development, undergraduate research and the music department. Hall said he is reluctant to raise the comprehensive fee, as it would further burden students.

"I'm not speaking for the institution, but I would worry about any hike in the comprehensive fee, because I know that we will have to continue to raise tuition levels," Hall said.

Both Hurley and Hall said the college would not be in favor of levying a fee on drama majors

exclusively.

Hurley said such a fee would be against the philosophy adopted by the Board of Visitors that no individual program of study would levy discipline-specific fees.

Murray said she was not in favor of charging drama majors either. She said it might scare away potential drama majors who could not afford the fee.

"It doesn't seem fair that we would have to pay that fee, when a psychology student wouldn't have to pay a fee to take their lab, or a biology student wouldn't have to pay a fee to take their lab," she said.

Hall said he couldn't offer any assurances about restoring the theater department's budget at this point and the administration has not made any decisions on the new budget yet.

—Conor Reilly-Bullock

Haitian Author Speaks

By ADINA YOUNG
Staff Writer

Haitian-American award winning author Edwidge Danticat spoke at Mary Washington College yesterday.



Conor Reilly-Bullock
Haitian author Edwidge Danticat speaks at MWC.

She was the winner of the 1995 Push Cart Short Story Prize for her book "Krik? Krak!" according to the James Farmer Multicultural Center. According to Emory University, much of her work has been translated into six different languages including Korean, Italian, German, French, Spanish and Swedish.

Her native languages are Creole and French. The themes within her books are most specifically about migration, sexuality, gender and history and are usually set or involve Haitians and/or Haitian-Americans.

Much to the surprise of her parents, her success came through literature. Danticat received her Bachelor of Arts in French literature from Barnard College. She then went on to complete her master of arts at Brown University where she wrote her first published book "Breath, Eyes, Memory" in 1994. The novel dramatized a young Haitian woman's coming of age in a troubled mother-daughter relationship.

Set in 1937 with the feuding of the Dominican Republic and Haiti and leader Rafael Molina calling for the slaughter of all Haitians on Dominican land, her next book, "Farming of Bones," was published. According to the James Farmer Multicultural Center, her book, "The Dew Breaker," is scheduled for publication in March 2004 and according to Emory University, Danticat is currently teaching creative writing at New York University.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!



My Husband John:

"Love is the seed of all hope. It is the enticement to trust, to risk, and to try to go on." - Gloria Gaither
~ Erika

My Daughters Dee and Sierra:
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!

~ Love, Mom

"All you need is love!"
~ The Beatles

"Aaya shoma Valentin-am khaahid shod?"
~ Anonymous

"Two in love can make it."
~ Frank Sinatra

To My Prince Charming:

"I melt every time you look at me that way, one little stare from you is all it takes. I love you!
~ Your Princess

"If what they say is 'Nothing is forever' then what makes, then what makes love the exception?"
~ Outkast

Allison:
"You are more beautiful every day. I am so lucky to have you. I love you.
~ Alex

"If you've got love in your sights, watch out! Love bites."
~ Def Leppard

"The quickest way to the heart is through the chest." Happy Valentine's Day to the Vikings, Amazons and Valkyries.

**Much wuv!
~ Yours Truly, BBA**

Emma:

"Happy Valentine's Day.
"If always was all that we gave, and we someday take that away. I'll be alright if it was just till St. Patrick's Day."

~ Love, Nick

"One dream, one soul, one prize, one goal, one golden glance of what should be, it's a kind of magic."
~ Queen

Seacobeck and the Eagles Nest:
Have a great Valentine's Day!
~ The Marketing Department

I love you, Peach.
Thanks for making this last year wonderful.
~ Love, Turtle

"You don't have to close your eyes, 'cause it's standing right before you. All that you need will surely come."
~ Savage Garden

Women of Color:
You are the best club on campus! We appreciate all your hard work. See you at the step show!
~ Love, Women of Color Exec Board